

24. The system of claim 15 wherein at least one of the parameter controls has a default value that cannot be modified by a user.

25. The system of claim 15 wherein a non-transforming image processor is chained between two transforming image processors.

26. A method for allowing variable controlled alteration of image processing of digital image data in a digital image capture device, the method comprising:  
forming an image processing chain with two or more image processors, the two or more image processors being stored in memory, wherein said processors are software modules and each performing a particular type of processing of digital image data;  
providing one or more parametric controls that are uniquely identified and within each of the two or more image processors; and  
accessing chosen controls of the one or more parametric controls within at least one of the two or more image processors to modify the image processor for alteration of the image processing.

27. A system for allowing variably controlled alteration of image processing of digital image data, the system comprising:  
a digital image capture device, the digital image capture device capable of processing digital image data through two or more image processors, the two or more image processors being stored in memory, wherein said processors are software modules and each performing a particular type of image processing and having one or more parametric controls that are uniquely identified; and

a central processing unit within the digital image capture device and capable of linking the two or more image processors to form an image processing chain, wherein the central processing unit facilitates access of chosen controls of the one or more parametric controls within at least one of the two or more processors for modification of the image processor and alteration of the image processing.

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28. The system of claim 27 wherein at least one of the parameter controls has a default value that cannot be modified by a user.

29. The system of claim 27 wherein a non-transforming image processor is chained between two transforming image processors.

30. A method of controlling processing of digital image data in a digital image capture device, comprising:  
forming an image processing chain with a plurality of image processors, the plurality of image processors being software modules stored in memory located within the digital image capture device, the image processors each performing a particular type of image processing on the digital image data; and  
providing one or more parametric controls within each of the two or more image processors, at least one of the parametric controls accessible by a user of the digital image capture device for modifying at least one of the two or more image processors.

31. The method of claim 30 further comprising replacing a parametric control value with a user-specified value.

32. The method of claim 30 further comprising replacing a parametric control value with a default value.

33. The method of claim 30 further comprising exchanging a parametric control setting by an external mechanism.

34. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

forming an image processing chain with a plurality of image processors, the plurality of image processors being software modules stored in memory located within the digital image capture device, the image processors each performing a particular type of image transformation on the digital image data; and providing one or more parametric controls that are uniquely identified and within each of the two or more image processors, at least one of the parametric controls accessible by a user of the digital image capture device for modifying one of the two or more image processors.

35. The computer-readable medium of claim 34 further comprising replacing a parametric control value with a user-specified value.

36. The computer-readable medium of claim 34 further comprising replacing a parametric control value with a default value.

37. The computer-readable medium of claim 34 further comprising exchanging a parametric control setting by an external mechanism.

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38. A system for controlling the processing of digital image data, comprising:  
a digital image capture device having an image processing backplane for forming an  
image processing chain with a plurality of image processors, the plurality of  
image processors being software modules stored in memory located within the  
digital image capture device, the image processors each performing a  
particular type of image processing on the digital image data; and  
a parametric control coupled to at least one of the two or more image processors, the  
parametric control accessible by a user of the digital capture device for  
modifying the image processor.

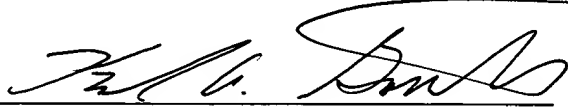
39. The system of claim 38 wherein at least one parameter control is from a group of  
parameter controls comprising sharpening control values, color specification control values and  
compression control values.

40. The system of claim 38 wherein at least one of the parameter controls has a  
default value that cannot be modified by a user.

41. The system of claim 38 wherein a non-transforming image processor is chained  
between two transforming image processors.

Respectfully submitted,  
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